



Spring 2016

# Noteworthy News - Spring 2016

Conservatory of Music

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarlycommons.pacific.edu/noteworthy-news>



Part of the [Higher Education Commons](#), and the [Music Education Commons](#)

---

## Recommended Citation

Conservatory of Music, "Noteworthy News - Spring 2016" (2016). *Noteworthy News*. 1.  
<https://scholarlycommons.pacific.edu/noteworthy-news/1>

This Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by the Conservatory of Music at Scholarly Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Noteworthy News by an authorized administrator of Scholarly Commons. For more information, please contact [mgibney@pacific.edu](mailto:mgibney@pacific.edu).

## A message from the Dean

Daniel Ebbers, Interim Dean of the Conservatory

### inside

new degree  
offerings

02

alumni  
spotlights

08

featured news

12

in other news

15

upcoming events

19

As we approach the end of our 2015-16 academic year at the University of the Pacific Conservatory of Music, I am most pleased to offer you this newsletter reporting on our many accomplishments. Through this update, we hope to keep you, our alumni and friends, informed about our transitions, triumphs, and the transformations that have become part of the heritage of our great Conservatory. Whether through our new Music Therapy equivalency program at the San Francisco campus, or the introduction of our newest degrees: a Bachelor of Science in Music Industry Studies and a Bachelor of Music in Jazz Studies (Performance and Composition tracks), we perpetually strive to prepare our students to be successful in the musical world of the 21st century.



Our Conservatory continues to have the unique combination of musical heritage along with 21st century ideas that make it an ideal destination for the highest level of prospective students. In my role as interim dean I am consistently amazed at the quality and breadth of the Conservatory's influence in the community, state, and region. Our students, faculty, and alumni remain unified by the common experience they all share at Pacific: the enduring transformational power of music in their lives. We all recognize their critical role in our society to transform others in the world around them as a vocation. The following is but a sampling of some of those transformations and triumphs.

- Daniel Ebbers

## Dean Search Update

In an effort to secure the most ideal candidate to lead the Conservatory, the Provost has asked that Interim Dean Ebbers continue to lead the Conservatory of Music through the 2016-17 academic year while the Dean search is extended. The search will resume shortly with the goal of identifying and hiring a new candidate in the spring of 2017. Under the leadership of Interim Dean Ebbers, the Conservatory faculty and staff have continued forward momentum with new curricular revisions, NASM accreditation, student social media campaigns, and several significant gifts among many other advances to the mission of the Conservatory and Pacific.

# Bachelor of Science Music Industry Studies

The Music Management Program at Pacific now offers a Bachelor of Science in Music Industry Studies (BS-MIS) degree. The Conservatory's newest degree program began this year and expands the educational opportunities offered by the Music Management program to all music business-minded students. This is the first non-audition degree for the Conservatory. It is the first degree of its kind in the region and has been designed to prepare students for success in the new music industry.



*CeCe Salinas '16 setting up for a recording session in the Owen Hall Recording studio*

Students in the BS-MIS degree are involved in:

- Conceiving and executing music and media projects such as recordings, videos, websites, and tour packages
- Fostering skills in media production and online media promotion, especially with social media
- Working for Pac Ave Records, the student-led music label
- Developing and completing a Senior Project which may be an app, company, product or service
- Completing an internship with music firms in various market sectors
- Choosing classes outside the major, or pursuing a minor in various subjects such as business, computer science, communication, film studies, and more
- One-on-one advising and career planning with program faculty and industry professionals

The BS-MIS program seeks guidance from a host of alumni and music industry executives who know the skills and capabilities they are seeking in future employees. The Conservatory of Music has developed this cutting edge program which merges practice with theory along with intensive, hands-on training and internships to give students the knowledge and resilience to succeed in the fast-paced environment that is the music industry.

The program currently serves approximately twelve new students each year. The size is intentionally small to provide personalized instruction, mentoring and plenty of hands-on time with labs, media projects and work with Pac Ave Records.

## Pac Ave Records

Pac Ave Records is the student run music label at Pacific under the direction of **Keith Hatschek**, Music Management program director. This industry model was created in the spring of 2012 and is part of a Music Management curriculum that gives students a hands-on experience while building their resume.



*Pac Ave staffers selling CDs at a Conservatory concert*

Pac Ave Records serves the Pacific community and is proud to commercially release artists from both within and outside the Pacific family. You can find the five CD releases from Pac Ave on iTunes and CDBaby.

**For more information: [go.Pacific.edu/MusicIndustry](http://go.Pacific.edu/MusicIndustry)  
Keith Hatschek, Music Management Program Director  
[khatschek@pacific.edu](mailto:khatschek@pacific.edu) or 209.946.2443**



# Music Therapy Equivalency

## Now offered on the San Francisco campus

In the fall of 2015, the Music Therapy program at Pacific welcomed the first cohort of students to the San Francisco Music Therapy Equivalency program. The program is administered at Pacific's new, state of the art campus in the SoMa district of San Francisco. The program is designed for life-long learners who are interested in honing their music skills in healthcare and educational settings. To meet the needs of working professionals, participating students have the option to complete the course sequence at their own pace while receiving clinical supervision from an extensive network of qualified music therapists. Studying with our faculty on the San Francisco campus provides opportunities for clinical practice at distinguished facilities, including Benioff Children's Hospital at University of California, San Francisco.

**For more information: [Pacific.edu/SFMusicTherapy](http://Pacific.edu/SFMusicTherapy)  
Dr. Feilin Hsiao, Music Therapy Program Director  
[fhsiao@pacific.edu](mailto:fhsiao@pacific.edu) or 209.946.3194**



*Kathleen Humphries '13, MT-BC, NMT*

# Bachelor of Music in Jazz Studies

## Conservatory enhances Jazz Program offerings

The Pacific Jazz Studies program, one of the most recent additions to the Conservatory of Music, has enhanced its degree options. In place of the Bachelor of Arts degree there is now a Bachelor of Music degree with differentiated tracks for Jazz Performance and Jazz Composition (with the same standard and honors designations). A minor in Jazz Studies is also now available for all majors on campus. The Conservatory anticipates the enhanced degree options will only augment the excellence of the program.

Accomplishments of the program include:

- 2015 Monterey Jazz Festival performance (as College Combo Division winner from the Monterey Next Generation Festival)
- 5 years of being a finalist in the College Big Band Division at the Monterey Next Generation Festival
- Performance at the 2016 California All-State Music Education Conference in San Jose, CA (by invitation only)
- 2014 & 2015 Best of Festival at the Seattle Jazz Experience in Seattle, WA



*Sarah Kuo '17  
Jazz Studies minor*

**For more information: [go.Pacific.edu/JazzStudies](http://go.Pacific.edu/JazzStudies)  
Patrick Langham, Jazz Studies Program Director  
[plangham@pacific.edu](mailto:plangham@pacific.edu) or 209.946.3222**



## The Electronic Muse featuring Alessandro Cortini September 18

In September, program director of Composition and Music Theory, **Dr. Robert Coburn '72**, organized and presented a concert of electronic music on analog synthesizers. The concert featured **Todd Barton '71**, Buchla synthesizer specialist



*Todd Barton '71 and Robert Coburn '72*

and guest lecturer in Music and Computer Technology, and special guest **Alessandro Cortini**, accomplished electronic artist and synth player with Nine Inch Nails. **Coburn, Barton**, and Cortini each performed a piece that expressed their voice as artists and different aspects of analog synthesis. Before the concert, Cortini gave a talk to Conservatory students and faculty about his work in electronic music and had a Q&A session moderated by **Dr. Coburn**. The Electronic Muse was well-received by those in attendance. In the words of one attendee the concert was “totally amazing, a truly unique musical experience.”

## Pacific Jazz Combo at the 58th Annual Monterey Jazz Festival Monterey, CA | September 20

One of the Conservatory of Music's Pacific Jazz Combos performed on Sunday, September 20 at the 58th Annual Monterey Jazz Festival. The combo was invited to perform at this prestigious festival after winning the College Combo Division at the 2015 Monterey Next Generation Jazz Festival in March. Saxophonists **Lucas Bere (Brubeck Fellow)** and **Chad Deacon '16**; drummer **Malachi Whitson '15**; bassist **Sarah Kuo '17**; guitarist **Sean Britt (Brubeck Fellow)**, and pianist **Andy Clark '16** made up the winning combo with the alumni members returning for the Monterey performance.

The sextet's win and performance exceeded director **Patrick Langham's** expectations and made the University proud. “It is quite an honor to have our undergraduate Pacific students being recognized at one of the most prestigious jazz festivals in the US. The majority of institutions which competed for this honor utilized ensembles that included graduate jazz majors. I feel it speaks volumes about our student talent and the level of instruction happening within our Jazz Studies program,” said **Daniel Ebberts**, Interim Dean of the Conservatory.



*From left: Andy Clark '16, Sean Britt, Sarah Kuo '17, Chad Deacon '17, Malachi Whitson '15 and Lucas Bere*

# Brundibár

October 8 –10

**Ela Weissberger** was 13 when she first sang the role of The Cat in a children's opera, *Brundibár*, in the Terezín concentration camp in 1943. *Brundibár* offered a semblance of normalcy for Weissberger after she was sent to Terezín in 1942. The opera was performed 55 times at Terezín. In October, she took the stage at Pacific to reprise the Victory Chorus from the opera in its original Czech. She sang alongside the two Cats in the Pacific production (**Madeline Kellogg '16** and **Alison Willman '17**) together with the full cast and members of Harmony Stockton and the Stockton Youth Chorus.

As part of a Conservatory of Music arts and education program, 1,400 San Joaquin County schoolchildren attended three free performances of *Brundibár*. The Conservatory's Music Education Program Director, **Dr. Ruth Brittin**, provided a study guide, books and notes to teachers so the schoolchildren could learn before the performance about the opera and its significance during the Holocaust.

A free public performance of *Brundibár*, which celebrates the triumph of the helpless over tyranny and the transformative power of art, was performed with a companion play by Tony Kushner, *But the Giraffe*, an account of how the opera's score was smuggled into Terezín.

In collaboration with Temple Israel Stockton, the Holocaust Memorial Butterfly Project was on display in Faye Spanos Concert Hall during the performances and Weissberger visited Temple Israel to speak with Hebrew School students. She also met with Pacific students and community members during a talk at the Bechtel International Center.



*Holocaust Memorial Butterfly Project*

"This is an extraordinary story and having a surviving member of the original cast here to share her time with us is a tremendous opportunity for our community," said **James Haffner**, professor of opera, stage director for the performance, and director of the Pacific Opera Theatre.

The Conservatory of Music last performed *Brundibár* in 2008, also under Haffner's direction. Haffner said the experience left a lasting impression on those involved. It had been Haffner's goal ever since to have *Brundibár* performed again at the Conservatory in the manner that it was this past October.

---

"This is an extraordinary story and having a surviving member of the original cast here to share her time with us is a tremendous opportunity for our community."

- James Haffner,  
Director of Pacific Opera Theatre

---



*Madeline Kellogg '16, Ela Weissberger  
and Alison Willmann '17*

The success of the production of *Brundibár* was the result of months of hard work by Conservatory faculty, staff, and students. The music was prepared and conducted by **Burr Cochran-Phillips**, and performed by students from the Conservatory's Chamber Music Program. Staging, sound, and logistics would have been impossible without the supervision of stage and technical director, **James Gonzalez '02**.



# Pacific Music Business Symposium V

## October 12

The fifth Pacific Music Business Symposium was held Monday, October 12 in the Don and Karen DeRosa University Center Ballroom on the Stockton campus. Titled “From Spotify to Swedish House Mafia: Scandinavia’s Impact on Global Music Markets,” the themes discussed included the robust festival market in the region, the hit-making teams originating in Sweden that dominate today’s charts, as well as possible routes to collaboration for US music managers to connect with Scandinavian peers. The Music Business Symposium was organized by Music Management Program Director **Keith Hatschek** with help from **Alyssa Dezell '18** and featured guest presenters Jonas Bjalesjo and Henric Lindstrom from Linnaeus University; Pacific professor **Sacha Joseph-Mathews** and **Will Stevenson '07**, Senior Manager at the Artery Foundation. The day consisted of guest presentations in the morning, lunch, and presentations from Pacific students in the afternoon. Approximately fifty students, faculty, and alumni participated in the symposium.

Sophomore Music Management major and Music Management Club Vice President, **Alyssa Dezell '18** said, “The symposium was a wonderful experience. I enjoyed having the chance to meet music industry professionals who have worked in the business all over the world in different areas. The sessions were all very interesting

and informative, especially the panel session where we received each speaker’s point-of-view on succeeding in the industry by different routes. Overall, it was a fantastic experience and I’m very glad I had the opportunity to both attend and assist in organizing the event.”



*From left: Will Stevenson '07, Keith Hatschek, Henric Lindstrom, Sacha Joseph-Mathews and Jonas Bjalesjo*

This event was supported by a grant from the Music and Entertainment Industry Educators Association (MEIEA) for student enrichment, a Pacific Arts and Lecture Series Grant, and Conservatory of Music programming funds.

## Symphonic Wind Ensemble | October 21

The Symphonic Wind Ensemble (SWE) continued its mission of extending great music to younger students, while learning themselves, on their tour in October 2015. The ensemble, under the direction of **Dr. Eric Hammer '73**, traveled to Travis Air Force Base and rehearsed side by side with the Band of the Golden West. While on base students were provided a clinic by Commander and Conductor, Captain Dustin M. Doyle. On their tour, SWE also performed at Jesuit High School. Included on the set list was **Dr. Eric Wood**’s new piece for wind ensemble *The Wedding Procession of the Ragdoll and the Broom Handle and Who Was in It: A Young Person’s Guide to the Symphonic Wind Ensemble* which SWE premiered at their concert on September 30.



*photo courtesy of USAF Band of the Golden West's Facebook page*



# University Symphony Orchestra performs world premieres in collaboration with Composers Inc.

Berkeley, CA | November 17

The University Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of **Dr. Nicolas Waldvogel**, presented two concerts in collaboration with Bay Area non-profit, Composers Inc. They first performed on November 7 in Faye Spanos Concert Hall on the Stockton campus. The orchestra then took the program on the road with a concert at First Congregational Church in Berkeley on November 17. The Berkeley concert represents a significant milestone for Composers Inc. as it was the first time the organization presented a concert of new orchestral music. The program consisted of three world premieres and three other pieces of contemporary music, all set to promote Composers Inc., whose mission is advancing new music by young composers, aptly performed by young and rising musicians.

Program for both concerts:

***“Unhinged Carnival Fanfare Machine” (2012)*** by London-based composer Jonathan Russell (World Premiere)

***“Level Inflation” (2014)*** by California-based composer and Composers Inc. Executive Director / Co-Artistic Director, Ryan Rey (World Premiere)

***“Horizons” (2013)*** by New York-based Lithuanian composer, Ziboukle Martinaityte

***“Ein Sof” (2015)*** by California-based composer and Composers Inc. Co-Artistic Director, Nick Vasallo (World Premiere)

***“Schism” (2010)*** by Indiana-based composer, David Biedenbender

***“Moment d’Extase/Concatenation” (2013, ed. 2015)*** by New York-based Belarusian composer, Gleb Kanasevich

## Pac Ave Records, CD Release, November 17

Pacific’s on-campus, student-run record label, Pac Ave Records, has released its fifth CD, *Soul Finesse*. The album features the work of six artists who make music from the heart and call San Joaquin County home. The contributing artists are current Pacific students Tom-S, Steezamatic, and NV, Pacific alumna Sheng, Manteca’s Ian-Carl Floirendo, and Stockton’s own sibling duo, Pine + Palm. Each artist provides a unique voice to *Soul Finesse* which gives the album a sound described by Pac Ave Records publicist, **Alex Noxxel '19**, as “an eclectic mix of hip hop, indie rock, ethereal singer/songwriter, classically infused electro R&B, and soul-inspired pop tracks.”

*Soul Finesse* was released on November 17 and is available for purchase on iTunes, Amazon, CDBaby, Spotify, and other digital music outlets. A portion of the CD sales benefits Harmony Stockton, a free after-school program that provides classical music instruction to children at Marshall Elementary School in south Stockton.



# alumni spotlights



In January, **Jennifer Geiger '98** stepped into her new role as President of the American Music Therapy Association. AMTA is the national accrediting body for Music Therapy in the United States. The position is a six year commitment as Geiger served two years as President-Elect, will serve two years as President and two years as Past President. Jennifer has served in many volunteer and leadership roles both regionally and nationally. She is sole proprietor of Geiger Consulting Music Therapy Services, a private practice providing quality, interactive music therapy services. Geiger also continues to support the Music Therapy program at Pacific.



Composer and music producer **Scott Liggett '71** is now a music producer for all of Chelsea Handler's Netflix productions, as well as her four-part documentary series that began airing in January, and a 90-episode talk show that begins shooting in April 2016. He is also a principal partner with LNL Partners, a company dedicated to the production of Cinematic Graphic Novels. The company's major project at this time is bringing to life William Shatner's "Man-o-War". [www.shatnersmanowar.com](http://www.shatnersmanowar.com)



**Christine Witmer '13** began work as a program manager at the New England Conservatory in September. In this position she is responsible for managing the school's day-to-day operations and works on both the academic and performance levels. This was a cross-country move for Witmer as she accepted a position with the Pasadena Symphony Association as their Director of Education and Community Engagement prior to graduation from Pacific.

## Irene Roberts '06 to star in *Carmen* at San Francisco Opera

Mezzo-Soprano **Irene Roberts '06** will be performing the title role in *Carmen* at San Francisco Opera in their 2015-'16 production. Roberts made her debut at San Francisco in 2013 as Giulietta in *Les Contes d'Hoffman* and has appeared in *Le Nozze de Figaro* and *Parsifal* with the Metropolitan Opera. She is currently performing the same title role in *Carmen* with the Deutsche Oper Berlin. She will return to the United States in May to begin work with the San Francisco Opera. *Carmen* runs May 27 – July 3. Tickets available online at [sfopera.com](http://sfopera.com)

Email [conservatory@pacific.edu](mailto:conservatory@pacific.edu) if you would like to attend a performance with fellow Pacific Alumni. Limited seating is available so email today.





Assistant Professor of Music Therapy, **Dr. Eric Waldon '00 '07**, recently published an article detailing research with psychiatrist, Dr. Jennifer Thom. The subject of Waldon and Thom's research was the effects of recorded music in the waiting rooms of mental health offices on patient satisfaction and well-being.

Patients are more satisfied with the first visit to a psychotherapist's office when they hear music in the waiting room. "People don't realize how hard it can sometimes be for patients to take that first step of seeking treatment for mental illness," said Waldon. "We wanted to see if background music played in the patient's initial visit affected the patient's anxiety or satisfaction."

Results of the study appear in the current issue of the journal *The Arts in Psychotherapy*.

Waldon and co-author Jennifer Thom, both psychologists at Kaiser Permanente's outpatient psychiatric facility in Stockton, designed a study in which patients who chose to participate in a new type of orientation were placed either in a waiting room where music played in the background or in a waiting room with no music. After their orientation, patients completed a short evaluation measuring their satisfaction with the waiting room experience and their sense of anxiety.

The patients weren't asked about the music, but those who had music playing in the background reported greater satisfaction.

All patients in the background-music group were exposed to the same recording, American violinist Daniel Kobialka's "Going Home Medley," which has parameters found by music researchers to be relaxing: for example, 72 or fewer beats per minute and a consistent rhythm.

"We now have evidence that this specific type of music helps, in a small way, to make the process of starting mental health treatment more comfortable for patients," Waldon said.

Although previous research has been done on the use of music in other types of medical waiting rooms, few studies have looked at music in psychiatric clinics, and most trials involving music made no attempt to "blind" participants to the music.

Extensive research has been done on the use of music in affecting human mood and emotion, according to Waldon. "Businesses have learned that if they want to hurry consumers through a restaurant, they should play faster music, for example, while stores that want shoppers to take their time might play slower music," he said.

Waldon said that his future research might involve providing MP3 players and headphones to waiting patients and letting the patients choose which music they find most relaxing. This would give researchers the opportunity to examine how patient choice in music affects satisfaction or anxiety.

## Music Composition Alumni Activities

A number of the Conservatory's music composition alumni are continuing their education at the graduate and doctoral level in competitive programs and others have secured teaching positions at the university level.

Pacific grads currently pursuing their Masters of Music in Composition are: **Nicholas Joven '14** (NYU), **Petra (Anderson) Hogan '12** (University of Maryland), and **Benjamin Vogel '15** (University of Texas, Austin)

**Hali Alspach '12** recently finished her MM in Musical Theatre Writing at NYU

**Kevin Baldwin '11** is now a doctoral candidate at University of Washington, Seattle.

**Cole Ingraham '07** is currently a professor at the FaceArt Institute of Music in Shanghai

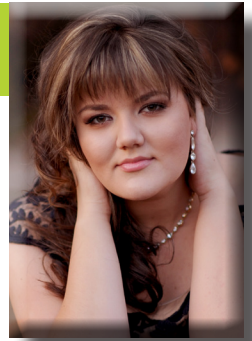
**John McCallum '99** teaches at UC Berkeley and has completed a residency at the Institut de Recherche et Coordination Acoustique/Musique (IRCAM) institute in Paris, France.



## Featured News:

# Pacific Alumna wins Metropolitan Opera Grand Finals

Yelena Dyachek '13 is living her dream.



Yelena Dyachek '13

Dyachek, a soprano from Sacramento, beat out more than 1,500 singers over the past year to become one of the five winners of the 2016 Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions in New York City. The winners received a grand prize of \$15,000 and the remaining four finalists received \$5,000. More than that, placing in the top five of the most prestigious competition of its kind has catapulted the careers of these emerging opera singers.

The Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions, established in 1935, are designed to discover promising young opera singers and help them with artistic and career development. Winners receive cash prizes and, most importantly, the opportunity to train with the Met's artistic staff, sing on the Metropolitan Opera House stage, and display their professional potential before top opera talent agents and artistic directors.

"Also memorable was the soprano Yelena Dyachek from California, who demonstrated impressive range, depth and power in 'Come scoglio' from Mozart's 'Cosi Fan Tutte' before delivering an emotionally captivating Letter Scene from Tchaikovsky's 'Eugene Onegin,'" according to a review in The New York Times.

The months-long competition began in the Fall with the huge pool of singers auditioning throughout the country and Canada. Dyachek won the Los Angeles District and Western Region auditions before continuing to the March 6 semifinals in New York City. She and other semifinalists worked with Metropolitan Opera singers and musicians to prepare for the March 13 grand finals.

Dyachek said her time at Pacific readied her for the competition. While at the Conservatory she studied with **Daniel Ebberts**, professor of voice and current Interim Dean.

Dyachek, who already spoke English, Russian and Ukrainian fluently, pointed to the language requirements as "one of the most valuable aspects" of her Pacific voice performance education. It allowed her to also study Italian, German and French while at Pacific and those language skills are a "crucial tool" in her graduate

education and professional work.

"I also took Opera Workshop, an acting-for-singers class, all eight semesters of my undergraduate studies, which pushed me further into character exploration and risk-taking, on stage and off," Dyachek said.

She said Pacific undergraduates studying voice receive much-needed stage time that they might not get at larger conservatories. Dyachek participated in every opera production while at Pacific, including three leading roles, and made valuable connections at Stockton Opera.

"The opportunity to perform with the Met orchestra is a dream come true," Dyachek said from New York City just before the grand finals. "It feels surreal, very unexpected, and absolutely wonderful."

Future plans include spending the summer in San Francisco as part of the Merola Opera Program's production of "Cosi fan tutte" and joining the Houston Grand Opera's Studio next season.



Yelena Dyachek '13 hugs fellow Metropolitan Opera National Council Audition winner Sean Michael Plumb.  
Photo courtesy of faymouss.nyc

# Encouragement Awards

## Three young alumni receive honors following Met district wins

Dyacheck was not the only Pacific star to shine during the 2016 Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions. **Andrew Dwan '13**, a bass-baritone from Santa Clara won district honors in San Francisco and the Encouragement Award at the regional finals in LA in November. **Hannah Ludwig '14**, a mezzo-soprano from Sacramento, won in the Puerto Rico District and in February took home the Encouragement Award at the gulf coast region finals. A third Pacific graduate, **Ted Pickell '14**, a bass-baritone from El Dorado Hills, won the Illinois District competition and received the Encouragement Award in the Central Regional Finals in Evanston, Illinois.

The students studied under distinguished faculty at the Conservatory of Music. **Dr. Lynelle Wiens**, director of the Voice Program at Pacific, and Professors **Burr Phillips** and **Daniel Ebberts** each had individual students represented in the competition, but equally important was the guidance of the director of Pacific Opera Theatre, **James Haffner**.

"The majority of our graduates in the voice program will attribute their success to the collective efforts of our voice faculty, whether it be in their individual lessons, the classroom, or in their opera rehearsals," Ebberts said.

"I am very proud to represent the Pacific Conservatory as an alum," Ludwig said. "My professors gave me the resources and guidance so that by the time I graduated I could succeed in the professional field as an opera singer. I owe all of my success to the fundamentals that the Conservatory gave me."

The fantastic four have shared a stage before. Dyachek and Dwan, who both graduated in 2013, and Ludwig and Pickell, who graduated in 2014, all were in the cast of the 2013 Pacific Opera Theatre production of *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, which was awarded first place in that year's Opera Production Competition sponsored by the National Opera Association.

"These results – the first place for *The Merry Wives of Windsor* and having four recent grads receive recognition on so many levels of the Metropolitan Opera Competition—are compelling evidence that the quality and dedication of our students and faculty are producing tangible and dramatic outcomes," Ebberts said.



Andrew Dwan '13



Hannah Ludwig '14



Ted Pickell '14

## String Faculty and Alumni Album Releases

Trio 180, **Dr. Ann Miller**, and **James MacQueen '13** all recorded and released albums, presenting solo and chamber music for strings in different contexts ranging from classical to contemporary to folk and rock fusions.

Pacific's faculty piano trio, Trio 180, released its first CD in the Fall. The album is the product of two years of work inside and outside the recording studio. The CD features Dvorak's *Dumky Trio*; Josef Suk's *Elegie*; and Schumann's *Trio No. 1 in D minor*. Trio 180 is made up of violinist, **Dr. Ann Miller**, cellist, **Nina Flyer**, and pianist, **Dr. Sonia Leong**. The CD is available for purchase online from North Pacific Music.

Associate Professor of Violin, **Dr. Ann Miller**, released "Perspectives on Light and Shadow", her debut album of music for violin and piano. The CD, recorded with **Dr. Sonia Leong**, features the music of Robert Beaser, Eugene Ysaie, and Bela Bartok. The album was released in January and is available online at iTunes and CDbaby.

Violinist and Music Composition alumnus **James MacQueen '13**, recorded two albums with his band StringFire during the summer of 2015; they have recently toured Southern California. Mr. MacQueen graduated with his MM in Violin Performance in June of 2015 from the University of Denver's Lamont School of Music. Learn more at [StringFire.org](http://StringFire.org)



## Stockton Symphony Collaboration January 23

Following Pacific Opera Theatre's successful production of *Brundibár*, students began learning the music and dialogue for *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. In collaboration with Stockton Symphony, Pacific Opera Theatre staged and performed scenes from the play accompanied by the timeless incidental music of Felix Mendelssohn. The concert was held at Atherton Auditorium on the campus of San Joaquin Delta College.



Nicolasa Kuster

The concert also featured a Pacific faculty soloist. **Nicolasa Kuster**, bassoon, performed Peter Schickele's *Concerto for Bassoon and Orchestra* to a delighted audience. The Conservatory has enjoyed a significant relationship with Stockton Symphony for many years and looks forward to the next collaboration. For more information on Stockton Symphony visit them online at [StocktonSymphony.org](http://StocktonSymphony.org)



Justin Pratt '16, Alison Willman '17, Julia Ludwig '17, and Eddie Tavalin '17

## Mahler at Pacific | January 24

### High school students perform with the orchestra

In their first concert of Spring 2016, Pacific's University Symphony Orchestra performed Gustav Mahler's *Symphony No. 1 in D Minor*. The concert served as the culmination of the Mahler at Pacific project, which put selected high school musicians side-by-side with members of the Orchestra. The collaboration gave the younger musicians the chance to work with college musicians of different educational paths. Along with individual mentoring and sectionals, participating high school students benefited greatly from the chance to work with Pacific conductor, **Dr. Nicolas Waldvogel**.

#### Follow the Orchestra on Facebook:

University of the Pacific  
Symphony Orchestra

#### 2016-2017 Season Faye Spanos Concert Hall

Sat OCT 1 @ 7:30 PM  
Sat NOV 5 @ 7:30 PM

Sun FEB 26 @ 2:30 PM  
Sat APR 22 @ 7:30 PM

Parents also had a great time, getting to have lunch with the Conservatory deans and faculty as well as enjoying the beautiful concert at the end of the weekend. "It was a true collaborative effort with our faculty providing masterclasses for



Dr. Waldvogel conducts Conservatory and high school students

the high school students in addition to the students work with the orchestra. We look forward to more such events in the future," stated **Dr. Jonathan Latta '00**, Assistant Dean of the Conservatory.



# Premiere of New Works | February 5



For the first time in fifteen years, composition professors **Robert Coburn '72** and **Francois Rose** had new works premiered at the same concert performed by ensembles of Conservatory faculty and staff.

Dr. Coburn's *Quiet Traceries [return]*, a piece for timbrally evolving chamber ensemble, explores the experience of sound and silence as they develop through the music. Bringing this piece to life were **Sabine Klein**, piano; **Dr. Patricia Shands**, clarinet; **Mathew Krejci**, alto/bass flute; **Dr. Jonathan Latta '00**, vibraphone; **Thomas Derthick**, double bass; and **Travis Silvers**, guitar.

Dr. Rose's chamber opera *the stone marker* is the product of his research on the techniques and experience of Noh, Japanese classical theatre. **Daniel Ebbers** and **Burr Cochran-Phillips**, clad in simple masks then sitting amongst the ensemble, played the parts of a son and his father on a journey into the forest.

Their story was accompanied by a chamber orchestra, conducted by **Dr. Nicolas Waldvogel**, and made up of **Dr. Ann Miller**, violin; **Igor Veligan**, viola; **Nina Flyer**, cello; **Thomas Derthick**, doublebass; **Mathew Krejci**, flute; **Thomas Nugent**, oboe; **Dr. Patricia Shands**, clarinet; **Nicolasa Kuster**, bassoon; **Jennie Blomster**, French horn; and **Sabine Klein**, piano.

## Seniors Shine Bright at Orchestra Concert February 27

One of the Conservatory's most exciting annual performances occurred at the end of February 2016, the University Symphony Orchestra's concert featuring winners of the Concerto Competition. Each year adjudicators select four graduating seniors to represent their class during a spring orchestra concert. This year the orchestra performance followed the Mahler Side-by-Side concert by less than a month and included Edward Elgar's *Enigma Variations*, demanding a whirlwind of work by the orchestra to support the soloists. Members of the orchestra rose to the challenge and presented a professional and entertaining evening under the skillful direction of **Dr. Nicolas Waldvogel**. The following is a list of the students and the pieces they performed.

### **Richard Fiallos '16, Piano**

**Sergei Prokofiev**, *Piano Concerto No. 2 in G Minor, Mvt. I. Andantino-Allegretto*

### **János Csontos '16, Alto Saxophone**

**Alexandre Glazunov**, *Saxophone Concerto, Op. 109*

### **Madelaine Matej '16, Soprano**

**Giuseppe Verdi**, "Sul fil d'un soffio etesio", from *Falstaff*;  
**Benjamin Britten**, "Be Kind and Courteous", from *A Midsummer Night's Dream*

### **Kipp Brewer '16, Trumpet**

**Joseph Haydn**, *Trumpet Concerto in E-flat Major, Mvt. I. Allegro*



*Kipp Brewer '16, Madelaine Matej '16, Richard Fiallos '16 and Janos Csontos '16  
photo courtesy of The Record newspaper*

# New York City March 13-15



Students, alumni, faculty and staff from the Conservatory traveled to New York City to watch **Yelena Dyachek '13** compete in the Metropolitan Opera National Council Audition Grand Finals on March 13. (*She won! see story on page 8*) While in NYC the Conservatory hosted a reception and vocal recital for alumni, friends of the Conservatory and prospective students. The event was held at the National Opera Center in Manhattan on March 14 and featured the four Met district winners (*see story on page 9*) with **Paul Staroba '05** as musical director. On March 15, there was an event celebrating musical theater at The Duplex where alumni and students delighted those in attendance by singing their favorite selections. The trip was full of exciting reunions and newfound friendships. If you would like to connect with Pacific alumni in your area, email [conservatory@pacific.edu](mailto:conservatory@pacific.edu).



UNIVERSITY OF THE  
**PACIFIC**  
Conservatory of Music



1 Paul Staroba '05 and Dr. Jonathan Latta '00; 2 Interim Dean Daniel Ebbers with Yelena Dyachek '13 following her Met Opera win; 3 Madeline Kellogg '16, Justin Pratt '16, Ted Pickell '14, Donovan Ott-Bales '14, Sarah Haile '16, Ricky Garcia, Sydney Gorham '16, Yelena Dyachek '13, Adam Green '16, Johann Schram Reed '14, Alison Willmann '17, Andy Dwan '13, Hannah Ludwig '14, Eddie Tavalin '18; 4 Johann Schram Reed '14; 5 Jody Bell '04, Paul Staroba '05, Chris Kong '07, and Laura Sudduth '08; 6 Cindy (Hennon) Marino '06, Jenn Camp '05, and Stacey Hennon Stone; 7 Will Trotta '15 and Shamus Smith '02; 8 Andy Dwan '13, Sean Forte '10, Chris Kong '07, James Haffner, Zachary Koval '05 and Paul Staroba '05; 9 Paul Staroba '05 at the National Opera Center with Hannah Ludwig '14, Eddie Tavalin '18, Adam Green '16, Andy Dwan '13, Donovan-Ott Bales '14, Ricky Garcia, Ted Pickell '14, Johann Schram Reed '14 and Sydney Gorham '16.



## in other news...

Performance Studies Chair, **Frank Wiens** performed throughout Oregon and Northern California during the fall of 2015. These dates included concerts in Brookings, OR; Mendocino, CA; and Ukiah, CA. His season ended with a Resident Artist Series performance at the the Conservatory in Faye Spanos Concert Hall.

On October 24 and 25, Double Bass Professor, **Thomas Derthick**, performed in concert with the Chamber Music Society of Sacramento. The two concerts featured the Northern California premiere of Ellen Taaffe Zwillich's *Piano Quintet* and Schubert's *Trout Quintet*.

Assistant Dean of the Conservatory of Music, **Dr. Jonathan Latta '00**, a member of the Animas Percussion Quartet, was invited to perform at the Percussive Arts Society Convention. They performed on November 12 in San Antonio, TX. Dr. Latta also organized and moderated a panel discussion on "Entrepreneurship in College Percussion Education".

Professor **James Haffner**, Director of Pacific Opera Theatre, presented a workshop and master class on the Michael Chekhov Technique and its application in opera at the Oberlin Conservatory on October 29 and 30. Haffner then attended the Michael Chekhov Association (MICHA) Teacher Training Workshop in Miami, FL, a nomination-only workshop, in January 2016.

Conservatory Alumna, **Heather Walkover '12**, secured a band directing position which takes her to various schools teaching 4th-12th grade in Amador County. Her responsibilities

include three elementary schools, a junior high school, and a high school. She is also conducting and teaching at the Youth Orchestra of Salinas.

**Melanie J. Vartabedian '01**, was made partner at her law firm, Ballard Spahr. Her legal work includes professional work with intellectual property, commercial, and several other forms of litigation and a good deal of pro bono work. In addition to her new position, she continues to play cello with the Salt Lake Symphony.

**Madelaine Matej '16** put on a lecture-recital on the subject of the character of Eurydice from Monteverdi's opera *Orfeo* to the present day. Her recital was the product of two years of intensive research in several languages, academic disciplines, and musical styles. Matej conducted this project with support from **Dr. Sarah Waltz**, Music History Program Director, and the Powell Scholars Program.

On October 17 four Conservatory professors and three alumni performed with the Sacramento Philharmonic. The faculty-members who performed were **Thomas Derthick**, double bass; **Matthew Krejci**, flute; **Thomas Nugent**, oboe; and **Steve Perdicaris**, trombone. Alumni included **Anita Felix '81**, violin; **Ben Tudor '07**, double bass; and **Craig McAmis '80**, bass trombone. The concert featured Englebert Humperdinck's *Overture to Hansel and Gretel*, Max Bruch's *Violin Concerto*, and Tchaikovsky's *Symphony No. 4 in F Minor*.

The Central Valley Youth Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of Professor **Thomas Derthick**, performed its annual Veterans' Day Concert on Sunday, November 8.

The students in the orchestra had the opportunity to make music alongside the Tracy High School Madrigals and the Kimball High School Classics, a unique experience for any orchestral musician. Members of the Central Valley Youth Symphony receive instruction and support from Conservatory students who lead sectionals and provide assistance during rehearsals.

**Dr. Sarah Waltz**, Music History Program Director, presented her work titled "E-flat Minor" at the American Musicological Society national meeting on November 13 as part of the "Nineteenth-Century Piano Culture" panel. In March 2016, Waltz's edition of late 18th-century setting of Ossian is due for release by A-R Editions.

**Annala Flores '16 (Music Therapy)**, has been selected for an internship at Music Worx in San Diego, CA. This position is one of the most prestigious of its kind in the country and only takes eight interns every year. She is the second Pacific student in the past two years to be selected for the position. She will be interning from July-December 2016. Over the course of six months Flores will be working with a wide range of populations throughout San Diego under the supervision of Dr. Barbara Reuer, former president of the National Association of Music Therapy (now the American Music Therapy Association). This is a substantial step forward for her burgeoning career as a music therapist.

To submit your news items  
email us at  
[conservatory@pacific.edu](mailto:conservatory@pacific.edu)



# Yoshiaki Onishi

## Toho Gakuen School of Music

Music Composition  
alumnus **Yoshiaki Onishi**  
'04 was recently appointed  
as Associate Professor  
at the prestigious Toho  
Gakuen School of Music  
in Tokyo, Japan, following  
the completion of his DMA  
at Columbia University.



*Yoshiaki Onishi '04*

During his studies at Pacific, Onishi gained skills as a composer and academician that would go on to aid him in the future. Onishi regards his studies with **Dr. Robert Coburn '72** and **Dr. Francois Rose**, “instrumental because it was there where I first learned how to engage with my musical materials critically.” While refining this invaluable quality in the composition studio, he was complementing those skills with extensive clarinet studies with **Dr. Patricia Shands** wherein he gained an awareness of the psychology of a performer, especially one who would be performing new music.

Augmenting what he learned in private lessons, Onishi felt the general academic requirements of the Conservatory “Taught me the art of resilience,

more than anything else. It was there where, probably for the first in my life then, I had to be alert at 8 in the morning as I would be asked about the Greek modes and mensuration canons in the music history class. Or, despite my prep work in advance, I would have to stay awake to finish up my theory IV paper until sunrise.” Alongside that resilience was a personal drive to seek out contemporary scores and information on new music.

As a graduate of the Conservatory of Music, Onishi finding success represents the hopes that composition faculty—**Drs. Coburn and Rose**—have for all their students. That is to say, an aspiration that graduates of Pacific’s composition program will find themselves in careers that are personally fulfilling and align with their goals as composers.

## We need your help!

We have lost contact with some of the Conservatory Alumni. If you have received this newsletter and know of a fellow alum who did not - have them email us:

**conservatory@pacific.edu**

## Music Education Job Placement 100% for 2015

The entirety of the Music Education graduates from the class of 2015 secured job placements within a month of their graduation or were accepted to a graduate program. The successes of these young educators is remarkable on quite a few levels. It is an excellent thing just on the surface as it demonstrates the quality of the Music Education program at Pacific, but it also exemplifies the talent and dedication of our students and faculty.

Teaching positions for the class of 2015 range from general music in elementary schools to large and diverse high school music programs, and everything in-between. During their studies at Pacific, Music Education students at the graduate and undergraduate level learn how to teach effectively at all pre-college levels so they are prepared for any job opportunity that comes their way. Much of their knowledge comes from practical experience in the field working with individuals who start as teachers and mentors and become colleagues that provide support and connections after graduation.

The Music Education faculty at Pacific is strongly invested in the success of their students as educators and as such, they go above and beyond to help graduates obtain their teaching positions. Faculty become colleagues of their former students and enjoy staying in touch after graduation. **Dr. Ruth Brittin**, Director of Music Education, sees the success and growth of her students as something that is, in her own words, “Fantastic and very fulfilling as an educator. Their success makes the world a better place every day.”



*Heather Walkover '12 '15*

# Pacific Music Theatre Camp

Historic music camp will welcome new program | July 17-23



*La Vie Parisienne - presented by Pacific Opera Theatre, April 2016*

Under the direction of **James Haffner**, director of the Pacific Opera Theatre and **Burr Phillips**, associate professor of voice, approximately twenty students will be selected to engage in a rigorous week of acting, singing and dance training at Pacific's first Music Theatre Camp. Repertoire, tailored to the individual participants, will range from opera and operetta to Broadway classics. Performance opportunities will include a cabaret featuring audition repertoire and a showcase that includes solos, duets and ensembles. Interested students should submit a recording of current repertoire (one musical theatre selection) on a high quality CD or provide a YouTube link or other similar online video format. Postmark deadline is May 13, 2016. To be considered, applications must also include a required \$100 deposit.

**For more information: go.Pacific.edu/MusicCamp**  
**Steve Perdicaris, Director of Pacific Music Camps**  
**musiccamp@pacific.edu or 209.946.2416**

## STAY CONNECTED...



- Email news items and your contact info updates to [conservatory@pacific.edu](mailto:conservatory@pacific.edu)
- Keep up to date with the Conservatory by following us on social media
- Include us in your posts by using our hashtags



Pacific Conservatory of Music

#PacificConservatory



@MusicAtPacific

#MusicAtPacific



PacificConservatory

#UOPacific



# 2016 PACIFIC MUSIC CAMPS



209.946.2416

**REGISTER ONLINE**[go.Pacific.edu/MusicCamp](http://go.Pacific.edu/MusicCamp)**BRUBECK INSTITUTE JAZZ CAMP**June 12–18, 2016  
grades 8–12**SENIOR PIANO CAMP**July 17–23, 2016  
grades 9–12**PACIFIC MUSIC BUSINESS CAMP**June 12–18, 2016  
grades 9–12**PACIFIC MUSIC THEATRE CAMP**July 17–23, 2016  
grades 9–12**JUNIOR BAND &  
ORCHESTRA CAMP**July 10–16, 2016  
grades 5–8**SENIOR BAND, ORCHESTRA  
& CHOIR CAMP**July 17–23, 2016  
grades 8–12

#PacificMusicCamps

UNIVERSITY OF THE  
**PACIFIC**  
Conservatory of Music*noteworthy* news Editorial Staff**Editor**

Robyn F. Cheshire '15

**Art Director & Design**Robyn F. Cheshire '15  
Mari Tripp**Copy Editors**Morgan Dye '17  
Daniel Ebbers  
Madeleine Guekguezian '18  
Dr. Jonathan Latta '00  
Holly Stanco '12**Contributing Writers**Robyn F. Cheshire '15  
Madeleine Guekguezian '18  
Keith Michaud**Contributing  
Photographers**Robyn F. Cheshire '15  
Rebecca Fay Photography  
Randall Gee '09  
Julia Ludwig  
Craig Sanders  
The Record newspaper

## Special Thanks

Conservatory Faculty  
Harrison AquinoKärri Johnson Brown  
Pac Ave Records*noteworthy* news is published by the  
University of the Pacific Conservatory of Music  
3601 Pacific Avenue, Stockton, CA 95211.**How to reach *noteworthy* news:**Email: [conservatory@pacific.edu](mailto:conservatory@pacific.edu)  
Phone: 209.932.2898



## Conservatory Staff:

Interim Dean

**DANIEL EBBERS**

musicdean@pacific.edu or 209.946.2417

Senior Assistant Dean for Advancement

**HOLLY STANCO '12**

hstanco@pacific.edu or 209.946.7441

Assistant Dean

**DR. JONATHAN LATTA '00**

jlatta@pacific.edu or 209.932.2983

Marketing and Events Coordinator

**ROBYN F. CHESHIRE '15**

rcheshire@pacific.edu or 209.932.2898

Technical Service Provider

**BENJAMIN COBURN '04**

bcoburn@pacific.edu or 209.946.2809

Dean's Office Administrative Assistant

**KIM GIRARDI**

kgirardi@pacific.edu or 209.946.2415

Stage and Technical Director

**JAMES GONZALES '02**

jgonzales@pacific.edu or 209.946.3255

Academic Affairs and

Student Services Coordinator

**JENNIFER GOODWIN**

jgoodwin@pacific.edu or 209.946.2418

Administrative Assistant to the Dean

**YVETTE KHAN**

ykhan@pacific.edu or 209.946.2417

Director of Operations

Director of Pacific Music Camps

Brass & Percussion Program Director

Lecturer in Trombone

**STEVE PERDICARIS**

sperdicaris@pacific.edu or 209.946.3201

musiccamp@pacific.edu or 209.946.2416

3601 Pacific Avenue, Stockton, CA 95211  
209.946.2415 conservatory@pacific.edu  
Pacific.edu/Conservatory

## UPCOMING EVENTS

The list below represents only a fraction of all Conservatory events.  
For a full list of calendar items, event updates, online tickets  
and detailed information visit:

[go.Pacific.edu/MusicEvents](http://go.Pacific.edu/MusicEvents)

### JUNE 2016

- 1 *Carmen* at San Francisco Opera with Pacific Alumni  
(seating is limited - email conservatory@pacific.edu)
- 12-18 Brubeck Institute Jazz Camp  
Pacific Music Business Camp

### JULY 2016

- 10-16 Junior Band & Orchestra Camp
- 17-23 Senior Piano Camp  
Pacific Music Theatre Camp  
Senior Band, Orchestra & Choir Camp

### OCTOBER 2016

- 1 University Symphony Orchestra
- 14-16 Homecoming and Parent & Family Weekend
- 23 Pacific Choral Ensembles

### NOVEMBER 2016

- 5 University Symphony Orchestra
- 13 University Concert Band and Symphonic Wind Ensemble
- 16 Pacific Jazz Ensemble

### DECEMBER 2016

- 9 Holiday Concert with Pacific Choral Ensembles



UNIVERSITY OF THE  
**PACIFIC**  
Conservatory of Music

3601 Pacific Avenue  
Stockton, CA 95211

Address Service Requested

**note***worthy*  
**news**  
SPRING 2016

## NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTS

New Bachelor of Science Degree in Music Industry Studies  
Music Therapy Equivalency now offered in San Francisco  
Jazz Studies now offering enhanced degree options  
Alumna wins Metropolitan Opera Grand Finals  
Symphonic Wind Ensemble works with the US Air Force  
Music Ed celebrates 100% job placement for 2015 graduates  
Conservatory faculty premiere works by composition professors  
University Symphony Orchestra hosts high school performers

209.946.2415

[Pacific.edu/Conservatory](http://Pacific.edu/Conservatory)